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Your essential daily news | MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2016

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BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

Splitting waste collection is on the table

MUNICIPAL MATTERS

Contract could be split up by zones

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Councillors are already knee-deep in the question of what to do with organic waste, but there's a whole heap more of pick-up concerns coming their way.

With the waste collection contract up for renewal next fall, the city's standing committee that deals with waste issues will debate a motion Monday to split the citywide contract into North, South and East district-specific service zones.

That suggestion from councillors Jeff Browaty and Ross Eadie also recommends staggering the smaller contracts are renewed. "The problem is any time you have a big changeover … it's challenging," Browaty said.

"You've got a brand new provider taking over the whole thing, and those changeovers tend to be pretty disruptive."

Looking at the current provider, Emterra, Browaty said "initial contract service (was) particularly bad."

He said having the districts would help "maintain service levels through transitions," and more contractors would lead to competition and more competitive prices. Plus, "smaller players are then able to participate," he said.

Eadie said service "was awful" to start, and is "still not working properly," including missing entire blocks.

He said splitting the contract would lead to improved service. He is calling for a review before organic waste collection is planned and before the new contract is inked.

Emterra spokesperson Paulina Leung said over 99.9 per cent of collections made were "on the day they were supposed to."

FUNNY and FREEING

Veronica Gingles finds women's open-mike comedy 'an affirmation'

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Your essential daily news

Feds to review convictions of gay men made before homosexual acts were decriminalized. **Canada**

INVESTIGATION

Two women dead after house fire

Winnipeg police were busy this weekend, responding to a string of incidents that included an alleged homicide and a house fire that left two dead.

Police said emergency crews responded to a fire in the 300 block of Alexander Avenue on Sunday around 2:30 a.m.

Several people inside the home were rushed to hospital, which included four adults in critical condition.

Two women aged 20 and 21, later died from their injuries, according to police.

Photos from the scene indicate the blaze took place in a rooming house with multiple units.

Const. Eric Hofley wouldn't confirm this detail, but told reporters during a media briefing Sunday the cause of the fire remains unknown.

He wouldn't say whether the blaze is considered suspicious, as the investigation is in its early stages and being handled by the arson unit.

The president of the United Firefighters of Winnipeg Union Local 867 took to social media Sunday, calling the early morning blaze "a tragic weekend ending a horrible week of firefighting in Winnipeg."

"I know I speak for all firefighters, especially the men and women who fought this fire when I say we are profoundly sad for these deaths, and our thoughts and prayers go out to the family, friends and inner city community of Winnipeg," Alex Forrest wrote in a Facebook post.

He said that in total, four victims and a dog were rescued from the blaze, and that two firefighters were also injured, one of whom suffered smoke inhalation. METRO

> **We are profoundly sad for these deaths, and our thoughts and prayers go out to the family, friends ...**
>
> Alex Forrest on Facebook

IN BRIEF

Police officer charged after string of thefts

A member of the Winnipeg Police Service has been arrested for alleged involvement in several thefts. Members of the WPS professional standards unit undertook an investigation into "several internal thefts that had occurred over the past few months." The investigation resulted in the arrest of a 25-year old male who is a two-year member of the service, and now faces several theft-related charges.

Const. Eric Hofley confirmed the man arrested "was a sworn member, not a civilian." "It was a constable," Hofley said. BRAEDEN JONES/ METRO

Band needs 'to be treated with dignity'

SHOAL LAKE 40

'Canada needs to smarten up' on water issues: Band member

Austin Grabish
For Metro | Winnipeg

Shoal Lake 40 band member Linda Redsky, 55, with her nephew Adam. AUSTIN GRABISH/FOR METRO

She's shared her community's story with the world, but for now, Linda Redsky and other Shoal Lake 40 band members must wait.

Redsky was to return to Shoal Lake this weekend following a week-long trip to Geneva, Switzerland with Human Rights Watch and Samantha Redsky, who is another band member.

Linda, 55, told a UN committee on economic, social, and cultural rights that "Canada needs to leap and not shuffle" when it comes to First Nations water rights.

She explained to the committee how she must travel off reserve just to bathe her 14-year-old nephew Adam, who otherwise breaks out with eczema from the First Nation's water, which is tainted with parasites.

He just breaks out, she said while shaking her head showing Metro the boy's eczema on Sunday.

Shoal Lake 40 provides the City of Winnipeg with clean water, but lies in isolation on an island cradling the Manitoba-Ontario border and has been under a boil-water advisory itself for almost two decades.

The grandmother said while her community's fought for years for change, she didn't realize her human rights were being violated "on so many levels," until she arrived at the UN.

She said Human Rights Watch didn't mince words when presenting about Shoal Lake 40, and neither did she in an interview Sunday.

> **Nothing really gets done about it.**
>
> Linda Redsky

"Canada needs to smarten up and start dealing with these issues," Redsky said. "All these years they've been kind of dragging their feet whenever we bring up our issues nothing really gets done about it."

She said she was disappointed to hear Canadian representatives tell the UN they would need five years to correct issues brought forward by Shoal Lake and other First Nations last week.

"We need to be treated with dignity and not be put on the back shelf," she said.

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Exploring a community

RESEARCH

RRC student's project looks at perceptions of North End

Meg Crane
For Metro | Winnipeg

Chloe Ross-Rogerson decided to cross the underpass at Higgins Avenue and Main Street in order to learn how Winnipeggers view the North End.

As a student in the her final year of study at Red River College's creative communications program, she launched Beyond the Underpass — a website that explores perceptions and realities of the neighbourhood.

"That Maclean's article that Winnipeg is the most racist city came out in January 2015 and that kind of got me thinking about perceptions," Ross-Rogerson said in a recent interview.

The project, she said, started off with a survey about what people across the city really thought of the North End.

Chloe Ross-Rogerson's research examines views on a neighbourhood. MEG CRANE/ FOR METRO

"Out of a lot of the neighbourhoods in Winnipeg, people have really strong feelings about (the North End) and really negative feelings about it," said Ross-Rogerson.

"People see the underpass as this kind of boundary, this barrier."

> **That Maclean's article ... got me thinking about perceptions.**
> Chloe Ross-Rogerson

Major themes from the survey included concerns about dilapidated housing and crime, she said.

These themes now form the basis for a series of articles Ross-Rogerson is currently working on for the site.

For example, she has posted a piece where she interviews members of the Bear Clan patrol group about the assumption the neighbourhood is dangerous.

In another she talks with the North End Community Renewal Corporation about their efforts to provide better housing.

"It's not about looking at the perceptions and saying whether they're right or wrong. Everyone has their perceptions and they're based in your experience," she explained.

She wants people to think about the reasoning behind their ideas of the North End.

"Hopefully people kind of gain a wider view and a broader view of what's going on," Ross-Rogerson said.

FORMER GLORY

In the 1890s, the North End was a wealthy, upper-middle-class neighbourhood. In 1906, 43 per cent of Winnipeg's population lived in the North End. By 2011, that had fallen to 16 per cent.

COMEDY

Women stand up

Michelle Bailey
For Metro | Winnipeg

Open-mike nights have been popping up throughout Winnipeg for those who have no background in comedy. One of those nights is for women, held the first Tuesday of every month at Jekyll and Hyde's Freehouse bar in Osborne Village. Founder and comedian Dana Smith said women seem to be more comfortable if they're sharing the stage with other females. The audience, too, tends to be more forgiving, she said. "(It) has grown to the point where we've had to turn people away," Smith said.

Veronica Gingles, who is trans, was one of the first to participate, after she says she was talked into it. "I honestly didn't think I had the guts to do it because I had never done public speaking, let alone this. I kinda freaked out a bit," the 52-year-old said.

Humour, she says, is one of the ways she has begun to share her experience of transitioning.

"Telling jokes about being transgender was like an affirmation for me. It made me feel like I had finally arrived as a person."

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Minister Drew Caldwell said "doubling" municipal infrastructure funding is "probably a little rich." BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

Cities seek 'fair share' of the PST

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mayors and reeves lobby for an extra one per cent

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Manitoba's mayors want more money for infrastructure, so they're making it an election issue.

According to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) — the lobby group representing 137 mayors and reeves — municipalities are getting about 8 cents of every tax dollar for infrastructure needs.

And that's not enough, according to the association and confirmed by a survey they say shows 85 per cent of Manitobans believe municipalities need a bigger chunk of PST revenue.

Chris Goertzen, AMM president and mayor of Steinbach, said municipalities also need to be given more input in where PST goes in general — one per cent of the PST more, to be accurate.

"We often have little to no say in how (it) gets spent," Goertzen said.

The latter ask is one that representatives from all parties were comfortable supporting Friday.

LOOK AHEAD

All three parties alluded to future announcements being made regarding their infrastructure and municipal funding strategies.

The government minister responsible for municipalities, Drew Caldwell, said his "door is always open" to the AMM.

"I'm always open for a conversation (to) try and have better solutions for how funds are delivered or how services are provided," he said.

Liberal Party Leader Rana Bokhari said the mayors and reeves of the province "know what's best for their communities" and said she'd embrace partnering with them.

"Municipalities need to be able to make decisions for themselves," she said.

Progressive Conservative Party Leader Brian Pallister committed to "working in partnership with (municipalities) to get the best value for money and to make sure they have the best opportunities for meaningful input into how we invest that money."

But whether the AMM gets its full 1 per cent of PST increase to municipal funding — what it feels would be a "fair share" — is something not all parties could support immediately.

MURDERED AND MISSING WOMEN

Provinces commit to indigenous inquiry

The provinces agreed Friday to co-operate with and support a national inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women.

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett called the commitment an important step forward, as she emerged from a two-day meeting involving federal and provincial ministers as well as indigenous leaders and victims' families.

"This is something that has worried a lot of the indigenous leadership ... and all the people who were worried that we could end up with a jurisdictional squabble that meant that really important issues like policing and child welfare would not be able to be properly dealt with."

The commitment means child welfare, policing, education and other areas that are fully or partly under provincial jurisdiction will be examined when the inquiry starts up.

> There's many things we know we need to get going on.
> Carolyn Bennett

"The (agreement) is to co-operate on providing access to all of our information, to our organizations, to our institutions," Premier Greg Selinger said.

Details of the inquiry such as its scope, cost and who will lead it have yet to be worked out.

The governments also issued a joint four-page document that, in broad terms, commits them to improve the social and economic conditions faced by indigenous people. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Polar bear jail getting crowded

CHURCHILL, MANITOBA

More human encounters mean animals captured, held

Manitoba government documents suggest polar bear encounters with people have reached record levels on the shores of Hudson Bay with more of the mammals ending up in a specialized jail in Churchill.

Polar bear activity reports from the past three years show the number of documented cases in Churchill has jumped from 229 in 2013 to 351 last year.

The number of bears who were tranquilized and housed in the town's holding facility, known as the polar bear jail, before being released into the wild almost doubled from 36 in 2013 to 65 last year.

Daryll Hedman, regional wildlife manager for Manitoba Conservation, said last year set a record for the number of polar bears caught within the populated "control zone" of Churchill.

"Three hundred and fifty-one — for occurrences, that's a high number," he said.

While Manitoba conservation officers have stepped up their patrols recently, Hedman and other experts say climate change is largely to blame.

Canada is home to two-thirds of the world's polar bears, but experts say climate change could make the Hudson Bay population extinct within a few decades.

Polar bears depend on winter hunting to build up enough fat to carry them through the lean summer months on land when food is scarce.

But Arctic waters now don't often freeze up until early December and thaw much earlier in the spring. That leaves polar bears with less time to bulk up on fatty seal meat while on the ice.

As the bears spend more time on land with less fat, they grow hungry and can venture into town in search of food. Where the first encounters with polar bears used to be late August, Hedman said polar bears are now coming into contact with people as early as July 1.

"What's the tipping point?" he said.

"What's the threshold that they can go without food? When they're on land, they're not eating.

"How long can they sustain themselves without getting onto that sea ice platform to hunt seals again?"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ CUBS DYING

Expert says infant mortality high in first year

Andrew Derocher, one of the country's leading polar bear experts based at the University of Alberta, said the population is in "grave condition."

The population has stabilized around 800 bears but few cubs are surviving past the first year, he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

There were 65 polar bears tranquilized and held last year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CONVICTIONS

Feds plan review of past cases of gay men

The federal government says it plans to review cases where gay men were convicted of charges of "gross indecency" and "buggery" before the late 1960s, when Canada decriminalized homosexual acts between consenting adults.

Details about the review are expected to be released in the coming days.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Sunday the review will determine if a pardon is warranted for any of the men who were convicted.

One of those men convicted under the old law was Everett Klippert, who was twice convicted under Canada's anti-homosexuality laws for consenting sexual acts in the 1960s.

Trudeau spokesman Cameron Ahmad said in a statement that Trudeau intends to recommend a pardon be granted posthumously to Klippert under the "royal prerogative of mercy," which is the ancient right of the British monarch to grant a pardon or clemency. In Canada, the pardon is granted by either the Governor General or by cabinet.

Trudeau spokesman Cameron Ahmad said in a statement that Trudeau intends to recommend a pardon be granted posthumously to Klippert.

Canada's laws against homosexuality were changed in the '60s when Trudeau's father was in government. THE CANADIAN PRESS

KLIPPERT

Klippert spent four years in prison after his first conviction in Calgary in 1960, and then three years after a conviction in Hay River, N.W.T., in 1965.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Residents of Nunatsiavut, N.L., are grieving **changes in the environment such as rising temperatures, delayed ice formation, shortened seasons, and shifting habitat**, according to PhD student Ashlee Cunsolo Willox, an assistant professor at Cape Breton University. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Climate change affects anxiety on First Nations

INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

Mental health of northern communities 'a big concern'

It's mid-February and the ice roads into and out of Deer Lake First Nation still aren't reliable enough to officially open, a reality that weighs heavily on the minds of residents.

"It's very late. It's bad. We want to get our stuff, our supplies, housing materials, fuel. I don't know if we'll be able to get it this year (by road)," said chief Roy Dale Meekis.

Anxieties are high in this small Oji-Cree community, located about 700 kilometres northwest of Thunder Bay. An unusually warm winter in Ontario's north has left the roads unstable and unsafe, and kept local road groomers out of work.

More supplies have to come by air, meaning higher costs for food, diesel fuel, medicines and bottled water in a community that has been under a drinking water advisory since 2001. To reduce demand for fuel, Deer Lake recently installed a 624-panel solar system to power the school. It helps, but doesn't address the isolation.

"It is a big concern, but what can we do? There's nothing we can do," said Meekis.

Deer Lake isn't alone. Ontario has roughly 3,100 kilometres of ice roads that keep 30 remote First Nation communities connected to the rest of the province.

"There's something definitely wrong in the North," said Isadore Day, Ontario's regional chief for the Assembly of First Nations.

In an interview, Day said he suspects that despair over climate change — its impact on roads, infrastructure, hunting traditions and the surrounding environment — is contributing to mental health and social problems in aboriginal communities.

> **"There's something definitely wrong in the North.**
> Regional Chief Isadore Day

He has called on the province and federal government to conduct a major climate change impact study for the North.

"A study of this nature, if done, will have the added effect of short-circuiting the anxiety we have of being left out of this growing national discussion on climate change policy," said Day.

Ashlee Cunsolo Willox, an assistant professor of indigenous studies at Cape Breton University, said the connection between mental health and climate change in Canada's North is growing stronger.

"In Canada, we have this active fishing culture, active farming culture, and large Arctic indigenous groups who are on the front lines of climate change," she said, adding she was moved to tears from hearing their stories. "It's so hard to articulate how close they are to it and part of it — their breathing, their skin, their bones, their blood. So even subtle impacts on the environment can have major impacts on how they feel."
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BRITISH COLUMBIA

RCMP spent $900K to nab terrorism suspects

The RCMP spent just over $900,000 in overtime pay over the course of a five-month undercover operation that led to the arrests of two terrorism suspects in British Columbia.

Documents obtained by The Canadian Press through a freedom-of-information request show the Mounties paid at least 200 people, mostly police officers, $911,090.54 for overtime work during the investigation, which was code named Project Souvenir.

The operation culminated in the arrests of common-law spouses John Nuttall and Amanda Korody on July 1, 2013. They were found guilty last summer of plotting to blow up the B.C. legislature on that Canada Day.

$519, 039

Of the totalled expenses, the documents state that **$519,039.55 went to 100 constables involved in the investigation**, Project Souvenir.

Their convictions have not been entered while defence lawyers argue in B.C. Supreme Court that the couple were manipulated by police into planting homemade pressure-cooker bombs on the legislature grounds.

Defence counsel has described Nuttall and Korody as poor, methadone-dependent former drug addicts, while the Crown has said they embraced a radicalized form of Islam and were ready to kill and maim innocent people.

The bulk of the project's overtime expenses, $519,039.55, went to 100 constables involved in the case, while 30 corporals were paid $128,369.76 and 24 sergeants received $69,494.65. Records show the Vancouver Police Department was given $92,397, though it's unclear how that money was divided.

The overall cost of the operation was not provided. Without a breakdown of the number of work hours and officer ranks, it's difficult to estimate the overall cost, given that remuneration ranges from a starting salary of $48,000 a year for constables to $107,000 for staff-sergeants and beyond.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Canadians welcome 25,000th Syrian refugee

The 25,000th Syrian refugee landed in Canada Saturday night marking the end of the first phase of the Liberals' massive resettlement program. They were part of a plane load of refugees who touched down in Montreal.

In the coming days, the group will spread to eight different provinces joining those who've arrived in Canada since November.

Of the 25,000, more than half will have their costs covered by the government for one year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

OSPCA files application to kill dogs from alleged ring

Twenty-one alleged fighting dogs sit in a kennel in an undisclosed location somewhere in Ontario, where they'll remain until a court decides whether they live or die.

The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has filed an application in a court in Chatham, Ont., to destroy the animals.

They were recently seized after a raid on an alleged dogfighting ring.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Clinton pulling ahead

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL RACE

Hillary has edge on eve of Super Tuesday

Hillary Clinton resoundingly reclaimed her standing as the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination with a lopsided victory over Bernie Sanders in South Carolina, giving her momentum heading into the Super Tuesday contests in multiple states.

For Sanders, the roughly 50-point defeat crystallized his weakness with black voters, a crucial segment of the Democratic electorate. If he loses blacks by similar margins in the Southern states that vote Tuesday, Clinton would likely take a delegate lead too difficult for the Vermont senator to overcome.

Taken together, 865 Democratic delegates to the party's national nominating convention are up for grabs in the Super Tuesday contests in 11 states and American Samoa. Sanders aims to stay close to Clinton in the South while focusing most of his attention on states in the Midwest and Northeast, including his home state of Vermont.

As Clinton relished the most sweeping victory of her political career, her focus was already on Super Tuesday — and the general election.

"Despite what you hear, we don't need to make America great again," Clinton said at a rally Saturday night, alluding to Republican front-runner Donald Trump and his campaign slogan. "America has never stopped being great," Clinton declared.

> **America has never stopped being great.**
> Hillary Clinton

Sanders acknowledged getting "decimated" in South Carolina, but said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press" that his campaign is "looking to the future, not looking back" as the contests move outside the South.

For Clinton, South Carolina was a moment to wipe away bitter memories of her loss to Barack Obama there eight years ago. She won the support of nearly nine in 10 black voters, crucial Democratic backers who had abandoned her for Obama in 2008.

Hillary Clinton takes the lead in South Carolina. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clinton has a substantial lead among superdelegates, the Democratic Party leaders who can vote for the candidate of their choice at this summer's national convention, regardless of how their states vote. It takes 2,383 delegates to win the nomination.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Gas explosions at mine kill 36 people in Russia

A methane gas leak at a coal mine in Russia's far north triggered three explosions that ignited fires and partially collapsed the mine, killing 36 people, officials said Sunday.

The dead included five rescue workers and a mine worker who were killed early Sunday when the third explosion rocked the Severnaya mine in Vorkuta, a town north of the Arctic Circle in the Komi region, the emergency services said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Algerian jailed for possible link to Paris terror attacks

An Algerian citizen has been jailed for possible links to the suspected ringleader of the Paris attacks, Abdelhamid Abaaoud.

A court in Algeria's Bejaia province said the man, who lives in Belgium, was jailed Tuesday in the northern Algerian town Akbou.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CALIFORNIA

KKK rally turns violent in clash between protesters, members

A stabbing victim receives first aid from an Anaheim Police Officer, at Pearson Park in Anaheim on Saturday.
OC WEEKLY VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dozens of protesters who heard about a planned Ku Klux Klan rally were waiting by a Southern California park when six Klansmen pulled up in a black SUV and took out signs reading "White Lives Matter." The KKK members were dressed in black shirts decorated with the Klan cross and Confederate flag patches.

The protesters immediately moved in, surrounding the Klansmen. Someone smashed the SUV's window, and then mayhem ensued.

Witness video captured the brawl just after noon Saturday in an Anaheim park about 3 miles from Disneyland. Several protesters could be seen kicking a KKK member. One Klansman with an American flag used the pole's tip to stab a man.

"I got stabbed," the man screamed, lifting his T-shirt to show a wound to his stomach. A fire hydrant where the man briefly sat was covered in blood.

By the time ordered was restored, three people had been stabbed, one critically. Five Klansmen were booked for investigation of assault with a deadly weapon, and seven of the approximately 30 counter-protesters were arrested on suspicion of assault with force likely to cause great bodily injury.

"I thought they were going to stomp these Klansmen to death," said Brian Levin, who directs California State University, San Bernardino's Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism. Levin, who was monitoring the protest, said he tried to intervene when "all hell broke loose," using his body to get between counter-protesters and Klansmen until officers were able to reach the scene.

Levin said he saw no officers when the melee started. Sgt. Daron Wyatt says police were there and engaged with people at one end of the fight, and called for additional resources..

Police Chief Raul Quezada said his officers were able to respond quickly enough to arrest all but one of the main participants, with the exception of one counter-protester who was still at large Sunday. Four of the arrestees were released after a review of video evidence, he said Sunday in a statement from the city.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUTH AFRICA

Refuge brings hope for troubled rhinos

During the rescue of a South African rhino calf whose mother was killed by poachers, six heavily perspiring men squeezed the sedated orphan into a helicopter whose seats and doors had been removed to make more space, according to a witness account.

Days later, the jittery calf was trotting around a holding pen at Hluhluwe-iMfolozi, a wildlife area whose tradition as a rhino refuge contrasts with an otherwise grim picture in which rhinos have been slaughtered in increasing numbers to meet demand for their horns.

Hluhluwe-iMfolozi is a source of hope among groups struggling to curb poaching. In the late 19th century, there were fewer than 100 of that type of rhino; today, there are about 20,000.

Hluhluwe-iMfolozi, formerly split into two parks, transfers roughly 100 rhinos annually, many going to other conservation areas or private farms.

The man credited with saving southern white rhinos is Ian Player, the late South African conservationist who pioneered rhino capture and relocation methods in the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi area, starting in the late 1950s.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A baby rhino with its dehorned mother in their enclosure at a rhino orphanage in the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve.
DENIS FARRELL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IMMIGRATION

Swiss vote not to expel petty criminals

Swiss voters have rejected a proposal to automatically expel foreigners who commit even low-level crimes, according to results, handing a setback to a popular nationalist party that had put forward the measure.

The initiative was rejected Sunday by 59 per cent of voters. It was the most controversial of a number of national and local issues in the referendum, propelling voter turnout to top more than 62 per cent — which the state broadcaster said was the highest turnout since 1992.

The outcome is a blow to the Swiss People's Party, which campaigned for the plan.

The Swiss government opposed the measure. Federal councillor Simonetta Sommaruga praised a push by advocacy groups to rebuff the measure, telling RTS television voters sent the message: "Human rights are important in our country: They should not be restricted."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cineplex stepping into eSports field

VIDEO GAMING

Theatre chain invests $15M in fast-growing pastime

It's a classic sporting narrative: The plucky underdog takes on an established player while spectators squeal and grunt after a good shot or near miss.

But in this case, whenever the competitors get one-upped they respawn.

Welcome to eSports, where both underdog and veteran are teenage boys going toe-to-toe — or more accurately controller-to-controller — in Cineplex's first national video game tournament.

The game of choice is a one-on-one version of Call of Duty: Black Ops 3, a first-person shooter in which players aim down the barrel of their guns to find and kill enemy combatants.

The winner of the regional contest becomes Toronto's representative in the national championship on March 6, the winner of which will take home $20,000.

Cineplex has invested $15 million US in WorldGaming, through which it will run house leagues, rent out playing time at theatres and host local and national tournaments.

It plans to hold national championships on the scale of the inaugural Call of Duty tournament on a quarterly basis.

The movie theatre in downtown Toronto was only half full of challengers and spectators — a far cry from the arena-sized crowds eSports draws in Asia, with its multimillion-dollar prizes and viewership second only to the Super Bowl.

But the movie theatre event is progress for a country that is still considered a noob in the eSports world.

The Canadian theatre chain is one of a growing number of companies looking to stake an early claim into eSports, a pastime that could soon eclipse going to the movies among millennials. Some projections estimate the eSports market could grow to $2 billion US by 2018.

Deloitte's annual technology trend forecast said the potential business value of eSports "is clearly too significant to ignore." It estimated global eSports revenue this year will be $500 million (U.S.), up 25 per cent from 2014, with revenues growing faster than traditional sports, though still just a fraction of what they pull in.

ESports presents opportunities for corporate brands trying to reach a younger generation, said Rob Segal, CEO of WorldGaming. "It plays like sports, which a lot of these brands are used to, especially a lot of the teen brands."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

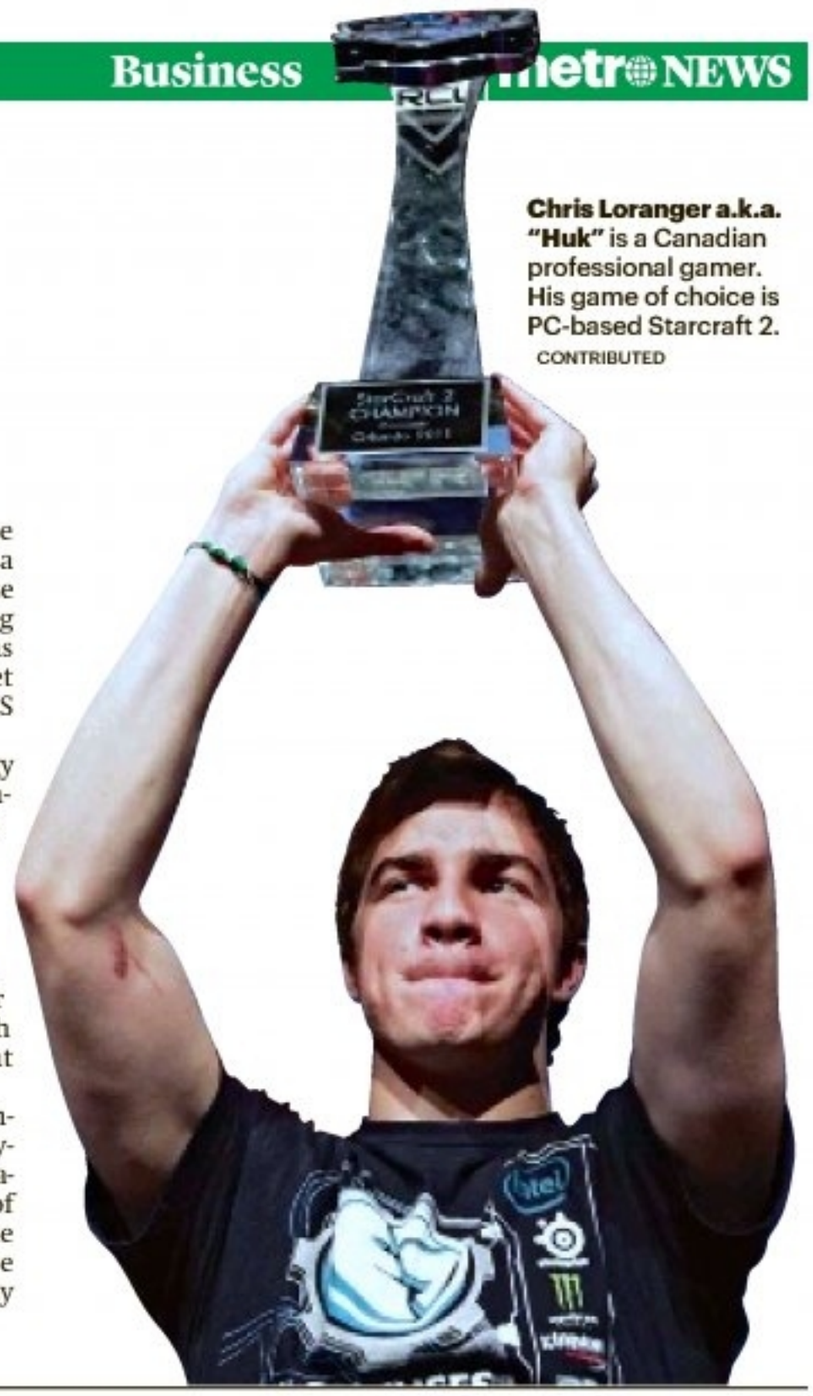
THE NUMBERS

$18.4 million US — biggest overall prize giveaway in eSports history was doled out at The International DOTA 2 2015 championships.

$6.6 million US — first place team take-home from DOTA 2 championship

5th — Canadian players' ranking in total money earned in tournaments

$500 million US — Global revenues expected to be generated by eSports in 2016, up 25 per cent from 2015



Chris Loranger a.k.a. "Huk" is a Canadian professional gamer. His game of choice is PC-based Starcraft 2.
CONTRIBUTED

U.S. duty-free exemption now more than 40 times Canada's

Americans are now allowed to spend more than 40 times as much as their northern neighbours without paying duty on products shipped from abroad, as a result of a new law.

Last week, U.S. President Barack Obama signed a bill vastly expanding the duty-free exemption for products imported by mail. The new $800 US limit quadruples the previous amount, which was already multiple times higher than Canada's $20 exemption.

There's pressure on the Canadian government in the runup to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's trip to Washington to narrow that gap, with the pressure coming from pockets of the U.S. government and industry.

One business group has sought to enlist Canadians by circulating an online petition asking people to add their names if they want to stop paying what it calls an unfair duty.

"The gap is unsustainable in our integrated economy," said Maryscott Greenwood of the Canadian American Business Council, which started the petition. She and a U.S. federal source said American officials are raising the issue with their Canadian counterparts.

The Canadian government has grappled with it before.

As the House of Commons Finance committee gathered advice for the 2014 budget it received a submission from eBay — one of the biggest potential winners of a relaxed duty exemption.

The online retailer said Canada's standard was far stricter than most other countries and noted that the $20 amount hadn't been revised since 1985.

It said an increase would boost mail delivery, save Canada Post millions in administrative costs, and spare consumers from the sticker shock that occasionally comes with online imports.

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Monday, February 29, 2016

Metro POLL

Should tuition be free?

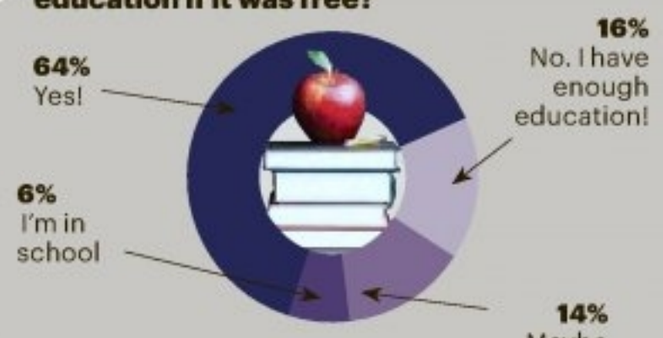
Visit metronews.ca **to have your say.**

Ontario announced last week that it will hand over significantly more grant and loan money to college and university — essentially making tuition free for families who make less than $50,000. We asked our readers from across the country if school should be free, or if there's a good reason for sky-high tuition fees.

1 How should we decide how much college and university cost?

46% Tuition should be free for all students
5% Other
6% Let the market decide
12% There's nothing wrong with the loans and grants available now
31% A sliding scale based on family income

2 Would you go back to post-secondary education if it was free?



3 If you think tuition should be free below a certain family income, what should the income be?

33% Less than $50K
22% Less than $100K
9% Less than $20K
8% Less than $250K
25% I don't agree with that
3% Other

I'd love it to be free, but we already can't pay for quality education in public K-12.

Everybody should have the right to an affordable education.

Tuition should be a sliding scale based on prior marks and income.

If the government thinks education is expensive, it should try ignorance.

WE ASKED Metro readers

Without historic sites, city heritage crumbles

INSIDE THE PERIMETER
Shannon VanRaes

"We're going to tour Europe this summer, I hear the buildings there are mostly new construction, making very economical use of four-by-eight sheeting material."

Said no one ever.

World-class cities across the globe have one important thing in common — a dedication to preserving and showcasing history through architecture. New Orleans has the French Quarter, Mexico City has its Historic Centre, Shanghai has Huangpu and Paris has, well, Paris.

Winnipeg has a lot of arsons-in-waiting.

Vacant Victorians, foursquares, bungalows and even apartment blocks dot the city's main thoroughfares, plaguing Osborne Village, the North End and the West End, inviting neglect's slow, steady demolition, so developers can slap together chipboard condos or infill in their stead.

The scorn heaped on Winnipeg's architectural history is palpable and it often comes right from the top. A long line of civic leaders have, without foresight, doomed a great many remarkable structures in our city.

There was the old city hall building, opened in 1886 and demolished in 1962. The Empire Hotel, built in 1883 for Lieutenant-Governor Joseph-Edouard Cauchon and torn down in 1982. The Eaton's building was destroyed to make way for the MTS Centre in 2002, and of course Winnipeg's covered market didn't survive the 1960s. Not to mention the dozens of buildings razed to make way for the very embodiment of poor urban planning — Portage Place Shopping Centre.

I only have to look one block from my home to find a muddy skid of surface parking that used to be two century homes.

And now Mayor Brian Bowman wants to demolish the soon-to-be vacant Public Safety Building, a perfect example of brutalist modernism if there ever was one. It's not pretty in a conventional sense, but it's intriguing, it's evocative and it represents a significant turning point — not just in esthetics, but in the postwar psyche.

Predictably, Bowman is claiming that the building is "beyond repair" and must be torn down. Of course the self-appointed transparency enthusiast hasn't backed this statement up with any actual documentation or specifics.

It all sounds remarkably similar to the arguments made in favour of building a new football stadium several years ago, when the public was told it would take millions and millions to repair the cracked, water-damaged structure.

Oh wait, it's actually the new Investors Group Field stadium that has cracks and needs millions of dollars in repairs.

Sometimes Winnipeg has gotten it right — the Forks Market for example, or Red River College's careful integration of historic buildings into its downtown campus.

But if our urban planners and civic leaders can't come up with anything more creative than tearing things down and starting over every few decades, our urban heritage sits on a foundation that is indeed cracked and crumbling.

Shannon VanRaes is a Winnipeg-based journalist and photojournalist who spends her days contributing to the Manitoba Co-operator and her nights covering urban affairs. She can be reached on Twitter @ShannonVanRaes.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
metroview

Presidential hopefuls could take some style tips from the Oscars

The Oscars came and went, and once again, it doesn't matter if you were busy tweezing your bikini line. Any personal grooming, really, is more satisfying than the Academy Awards.

The highlights were, as usual, already sliced and diced into an easily digestible breakfast this morning. In fact, the evening's growing irrelevance, heightened by its confounding whiteness and only slightly mitigated by host Chris Rock, is redeemed by just one thing: the fashion!

The Oscars have the exact opposite problem of the U.S. election — which is long on bombast, scandal, juice, jowls and most of all: consequence. What it does not have, not even a little bit, is style.

Bernie Sanders has a Michael Moorian compulsion to look unkempt. Hillary Clinton knows no shape but rectangle. Tangerine-tinged Donald Trump daringly wore a purple tie once, and he looked like a TV used-car salesman. Marco Rubio paired so-called "Cuban heels" (akin to cowboy boots) with his "dad's hand-me-downs" esthetic and the media had a field day. Ted Cruz, who's been accused of mistaking a Snuggie for a trench coat, doesn't appear to know that, whatever his political aspirations, he's too small to shop at Destination XL.

This election has been galling, frustrating, vicious, compelling. Its drama can only be perfected in the wardrobe department, by any one of last night's standout hits or a memorable look from past. Picture Sanders in Angelina Jolie's leg-baring 2012 Atelier Versace number, which he wouldn't shrink from: He's got no establishment ties to hide.

Clinton could prove her humanity to those doubting it by finally showing some skin, à la Lupita Nyong'o and her 2014 pale blue Prada gown.

Trump, whose political moral compass points in Hugh Hefner's general direction, could take the playboy look and steal David Oyelowo's burgundy Dolce and Gabbana tux (preferably in velvet).

Some analysts put Rubio and Cruz neck-and-neck for disfavour among the much-courted Hispanic vote. Perhaps Rubio could gain traction with J.Lo fans, at least, by mimicking her barely-there 2015 Elie Saab Couture look (it matches his barely-there support for immigrants rights).

And Cruz, the ultimate right-wing snake, might feel quite at home in Marion Cotillard's 2008 Jean Paul Gaultier scale-covered dress. It's white, an effective colour to don for battling Trump to be the evangelical's political savior.

One might argue these vying commanders-in-chief are already the hardest working actors around, so why not class it up — if only sartorially.

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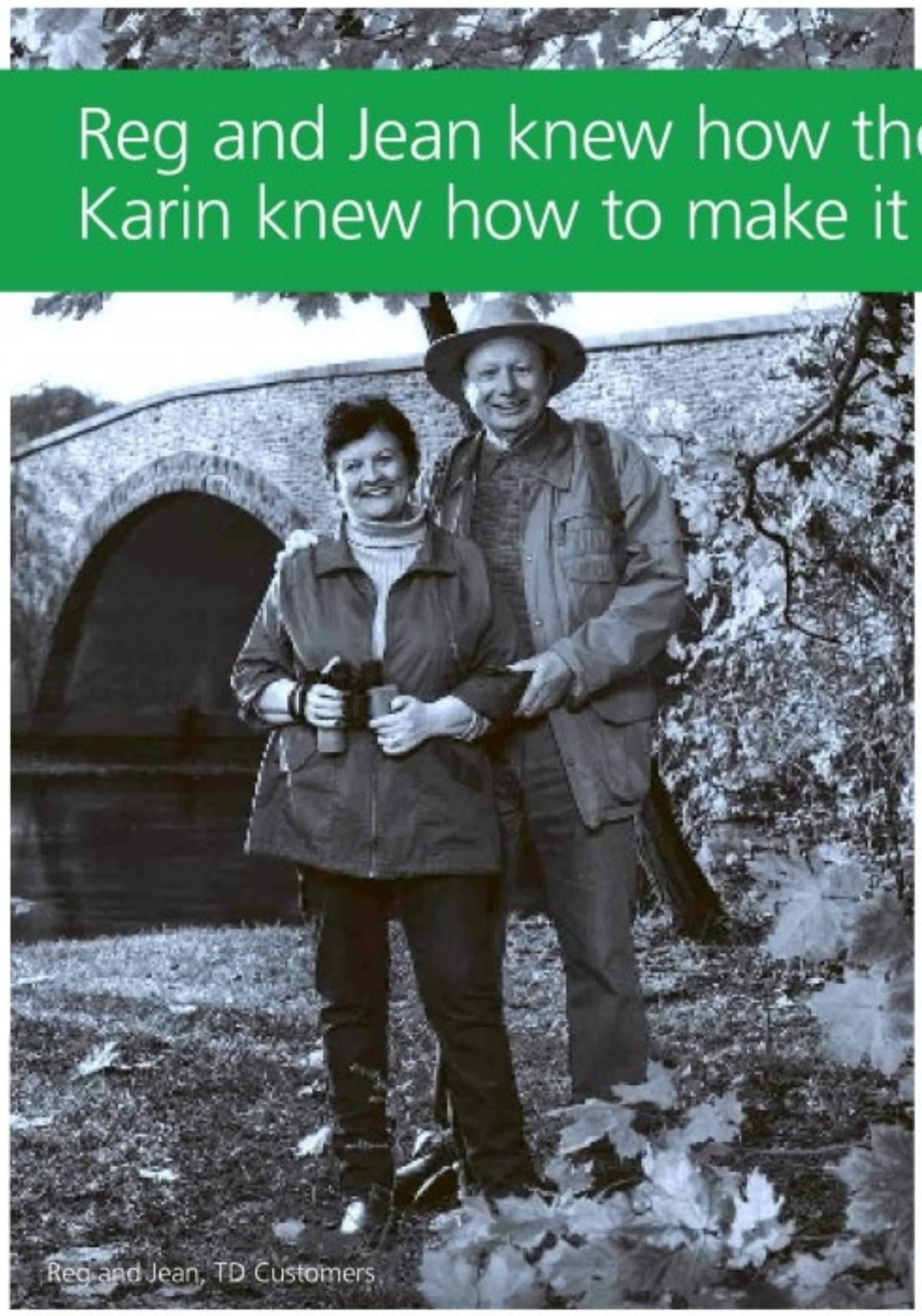

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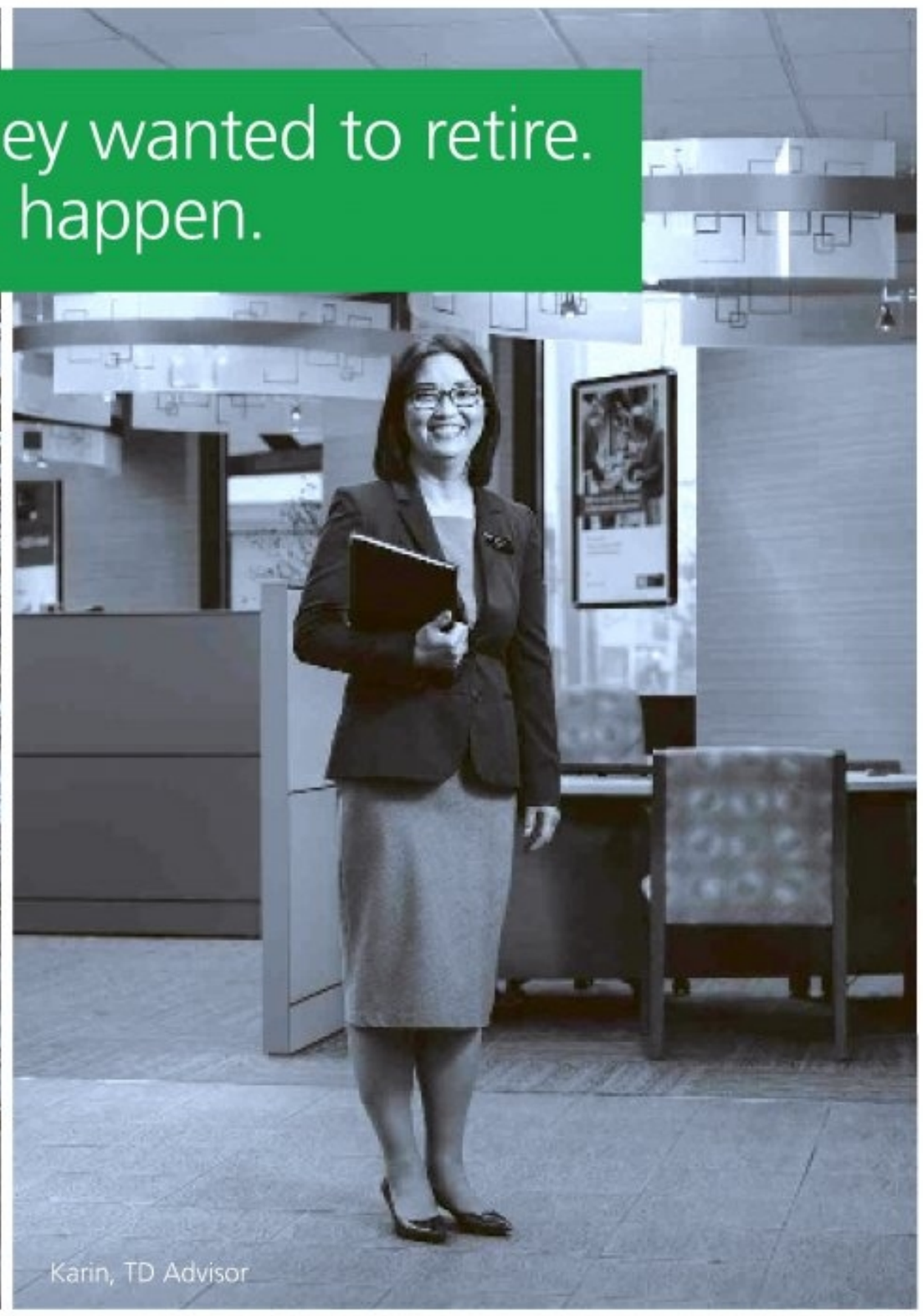

Karin, TD Advisor

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Six ways to deal with debt

NEST EGG

Manage your money so you can start saving again

Michelle Williams

Debt management involves examining your spending habits and making necessary changes. ISTOCK

If you're like many Canadians, your current financial strategy is less about funding your future retirement and more about dealing with debt. Even if you're earning a good living, fiscal challenges like interminable student loans, mounting credit-card bills and massive mortgage payments can take a huge chunk of your earnings. But there are ways to manage your money that help you pay down debt while putting you on the path to saving:

1. Define your long-term goals

"Basically, it's starting at the ending point," says Kurt Rosentreter, a senior financial advisor at Manulife Securities and chartered accountant in Toronto. "Likely, your goals include paying off your debt, accumulating enough wealth to retire on and perhaps helping your kids toward financial independence. By defining those goals, you have a focus, something you should never lose track of."

Rosentreter suggests going back every few years to track how you're doing at meeting your long-term goals.

2. Examine your spending

"Go back a year and look at your bank and credit-card statements to determine where your money is going," Rosentreter says. "On a spreadsheet, group your expenses into categories."

He recommends four groupings: essential costs (such as food, shelter, utilities), variable costs (things you need but could spend less on or put off to later), discretionary costs (restaurant meals, vacations, entertainment) and luxury costs (indulgent items, such as expensive clothing, high-priced cars, etc.).

3. Change the way you spend

Tracking how you spend can be enlightening and helpful in starting you on the road to changing your money habits.

"The biggest impediment to paying debt is your spending behaviour. Many of the expenses in the first two groups are difficult to eliminate, but you can certainly change the way you spend in groups three and four, the discretionary areas."

4. Don't ignore the small stuff

It's not just the big-ticket items that contribute to debt load. When scanning your credit-card statements, it may be surprising how many of the credit charges are incidental.

"Fewer movies, fewer lattes, fewer lunches out. Skipping all these little treats will add up big over time."

5. Pay off the high-interest debt first

"Credit-card interest is usually high. Your first priority should be to pay down the debt that has the highest rate of interest."

You may wish to move some or all of your credit-card debt to a line of credit or some other lower-interest vehicle to save on interest while you're working down your debt.

6. If necessary, make big changes

If you still can't chip away at your debt, maybe you need bigger changes to your lifestyle. Examine things like your home (is it too much house for you to carry?), the food you buy (can you shop at a less expensive store?) or the way you get around (do you really need a car?) Following this plan will help you save, but how much — and over how long?

"It's difficult to put an amount or time frame around debt repayment, but you should have a debt-free date as part of your goal planning. It will be much more difficult for a lower-income earner to save large amounts of money over smaller periods of time than someone who has more disposable income," says Rosentreter.

Set reasonable timelines and realistic amounts so you can maximize your chances of success. Look online for a debt repayment calculator tool or seek the advice of a financial expert to help you set reasonable goals you can manage.

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Washington state authorities investigating after Salma Hayek's dog found dead

Chris Rock takes aim at Academy

THE OSCARS

Host makes fun of casting clichés and racism in Hollywood

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

All eyes were on Hollywood Sunday night for the 88th annual Academy Awards, where there were very few sure things.

Most of the assembled Hollywood elite were on the edges of their seats about how host Chris Rock would address the elephant in the room — the lack of racial diversity in the nominees and the resulting #OscarsSoWhite controversy.

And he didn't leave them wondering for long, calling the Oscars, "the White People's Choice Awards" before moving on to mock those calling for a boycott.

"Jada boycotting the Oscars is like me boycotting Rihanna's panties. I wasn't invited," he said.

He also risked crossing a line or two with some eyebrow-raising lines:

"We were too busy being raped and lynched to care about who won best cinematographer" he said of African-Americans during the 1960s.

"This year, in the In Memoriam package, it's just going to be black people that were shot by the cops on the way to the movies."

After more than nine minutes on the subject, Rock insisted, "everything's not about race," and then tossed in one joke about women getting more style questions about their attire than men. But with each subsequent appearance on stage, it became clear Rock was not going to let the issue go.

Rock did win back some goodwill later, though, by bringing out a fleet of Girl Scouts to sell cookies to the assembled celebrities and moguls, one-upping Ellen DeGeneres' pizza delivery bit from when she last hosted.

As for the awards themselves, it was an evening of some surprises and upsets. Bridge of Spies co-star Mark Rylance snatched best supporting actor from the favored nominee, Creed star Sylvester Stallone.

Best supporting actress — another one of the harder-to-predict races of the night — went to Alicia Vikander for her work in The Danish Girl, her first nomination and win, before Mad Max: Fury Road started an apparent sweep, taking home best editing, best costume design, best sound editing, best sound mixing, best production design and best makeup and hairstyling.

Mad Max: Fury Road didn't win in every category, though, with Emmanuel Lubezki winning best cinematography award for The Revenant, making him the first cinematographer in history to win the award three years in a row. He previously won for Birdman and Gravity. And best visual effects went to the team from the indie sci-fi drama Ex Machina.

In the writing categories, Tom McCarthy's Spotlight won for best original screenplay, while best adapted screenplay went to another best picture contender, The Big Short.

Director and co-writer Adam McKay used his speech to address U.S. politics: "If you don't want big money to control government, don't vote for candidates that take money from big companies or weird billionaires," he said.

Pakistani-Canadian filmmaker Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy for best short documentary A Girl in the River: The Price of Forgiveness — her second career Oscar.

MORE ONLINE
visit metronews.ca for full list of winners

Jada boycotting the Oscars is like me boycotting Rihanna's panties. I wasn't invited.
Chris Rock pokes fun at Jada Pinkett Smith boycotting the Academy Awards

Chris Rock wasn't afraid to tackle the #OscarsSoWhite controversy at the Academy Awards Sunday night. GETTY IMAGES

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Will Annick and Yolanda's financial goals be met? **Metro's finance guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie** has only a few weeks left to left to tackle the women's largest financial burdens and teach them to allocate resources.

Moving home to save a down payment

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE
metromoney

THE CHALLENGE: Two ambitious young women have taken on the task of working with financial guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie to makeover their finances in just 12 weeks. Yolanda, 27, in Mississauga, and Annick, 24, from Calgary, are making strides towards eliminating their debts and building savings for down payments and emergencies. Follow their progress #MetroMoneyMakeover @LesleyScorgie.

THIS WEEK: Who wants to move back home after launching from the nest? No one — unless you're Yolanda and saving for a down payment for a home in the GTA.

NEXT WEEK: The road to debt freedom is littered with surprises. Annick's 60/60/60 debt reduction plan ensures she'll reach her debt elimination goal quickly, but doesn't leave room in her budget for "what-if" expenses. We'll explore ways Annick can build emergency funds on her uber-tight budget.

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE IS A BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND FOUNDER OF MEVEST, A MONEY COACHING SERVICE FOR CANADIANS. FOLLOW HER @LESLEYSCORGIE

Yolanda is willing to move back in with her mother to increase her savings so she can buy a home of her own. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

THE SITUATION

Yolanda wants nothing more than to buy a condo and live wild and free in walls that she owns. No more landlords, noise notices (because of her puppy, of course), rent increases and lease agreements. But to get to home ownership, she needs to amp up her savings to $835 per month and curb her periodic impulse purchases. At this pace, she'll have $30,000 within three years ($25,000 for the down payment and $5,000 for closing costs).

Yolanda recently discovered the power of budgeting — lining up her income against her expenses. Unlike so many of us who run in the red, when we broke down the numbers, Yolanda actually had a surplus of $515 each month, with which she can save. But to make up the difference between what she needs to save ($835 per month), she's made the decision to pack up her tiny basement apartment and move back in with her mom this June. This action will save her $350 each month (reduced rent, no utility or grocery bills).

THE LESSON

Generally, if you want something badly, whether home ownership or money to pay for your wedding, you'll need to make sacrifices. Everything in our budget is a trade-off. So, if Yolanda spends more than she needs to on rent, she'll forgo money that could be used towards her down payment.

Certainly there will be drawbacks for Yolanda as she moves home — sharing a bathroom, lack of privacy, a longer commute (two versus one bus) and feeling the pressure of her mother's watchful eyes. But, these challenges can be managed through basic boundary setting and time management. For example, while commuting, Yolanda could use that time to update her budget, read up on current affairs and plan her next career move.

The benefits of her decision are unequivocal — hundreds of dollars saved every month, home cooking and extra care for her pooch, which will relieve Yolanda of the puppy-guilt she drags to work daily. For Yolanda, the pros of moving home far outweigh the cons.

BY THE NUMBERS

Yolanda's Net Worth

The Progress: By bringing Yolanda's financial goals into the forefront she's started taking her money seriously. Since we first sat down in December, Yolanda has improved her net worth by $1,500 through contributing to her RRSP, TFSA and pension and eliminating an annoying $300 MasterCard balance.

Assets	
TFSA	$500
RRSP	$900
Savings	$100
Pension	$4,300
Total Assets	**$5,800**
Liabilities	
VISA	$0
Master card	$0
Total Liabilities	**$0**
Net Worth	**$5,800**

WORST IN SHOW

50 Shades big Razzies winner

Fifty Shades of Grey came out on top — or perhaps the bottom — at this year's Razzies.

The awkward adaptation of author EL James' erotic novel nabbed five prizes at Saturday's Golden Raspberry Awards, including tying it up with superhero flop Fantastic Four as the year's worst film.

Fifty Shades of Grey also "won" for worst screenplay, worst actor for Jamie Dornan and worst actress for Dakota Johnson, with the pair pinning down the worst screen combo award.

In addition to tying for worst film of the year, Fantastic Four was also lambasted as worst remake, rip-off or sequel and earned the worst director prize for Josh Trank.

Other dishonours included Kaley Cuoco as worst supporting actress for Alvin & The Chipmunks: Road Chip and Eddie Redmayne as worst supporting actor for Jupiter Ascending. Redmayne won the best actor trophy at last year's Academy Awards for portraying Stephen Hawking in The Theory of Everything.

Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan each won worst acting awards as well as worst screen combo. HANDOUT

Sylvester Stallone, who is nominated in the supporting actor category at the Oscars for reprising his role as Rocky Balboa in Creed, was bestowed with the Razzies' redeemer award, which lauds past Razzies recipients for recent work that's revived their careers.

The winners of the 36th annual Razzies were announced Saturday at the Palace Theatre in downtown Los Angeles, across town from the Dolby Theater where the 88th annual Academy Awards will be presented Sunday.

The Razzies, which were launched in 1980 as a spoof of Hollywood's awards season, were selected this year by 943 voting members from 48 U.S. states and 20 foreign countries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HARD AT WORK

Obama delivers scoop on first job

President Barack Obama says his unglamorous first job scooping ice cream taught him valuable lessons about responsibility and hard work.

He wants the same experience for other teenagers, particularly those without resources, and is launching a summer opportunities project to help young people land a first job that can teach them similar lessons and help send them down the right path.

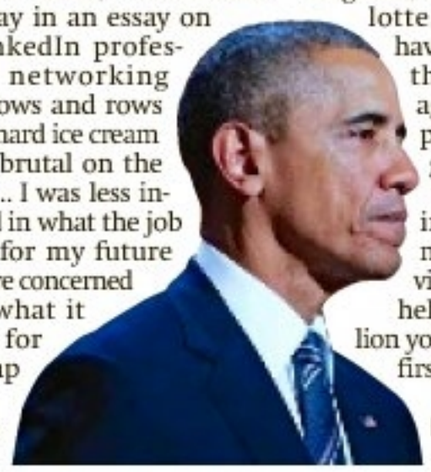
The private sector, all levels of government, community groups and schools have pledged to help teenagers get their first jobs this summer.

"Scooping ice cream is tougher than it looks," Obama said Thursday in an essay on the LinkedIn professional networking site. "Rows and rows of rock-hard ice cream can be brutal on the wrists. ... I was less interested in what the job meant for my future and more concerned about what it meant for my jump shot.

The job at a Baskin-Robbins in Honolulu "wasn't exactly glamorous, but it taught me some valuable lessons," Obama wrote. "Responsibility. Hard work. Balancing a job with friends, family and school."

LinkedIn has pledged to connect millions of small- and medium-sized business leaders with organizations that help young people. The Department of Labor and the Corporation for National and Community Service together have committed $35 million to the effort.

Cities, including Los Angeles, Seattle and Charlotte, North Carolina, have promised to help thousands of teenagers. The spending plan Obama sent Congress this month for the 2017 budget year includes $6 billion, nearly double the previous year's request, to help more than 1 million young people get their first job.



Barack Obama. GETTY IMAGES

Congress did not act on Obama's request last year for $3 billion for youth employment programs. Lawmakers swiftly rejected Obama's $.4.1 trillion spending proposal for the 2017 budget cycle as soon as he submitted it on Feb. 9.

Obama said landing that first job is already difficult, but even harder for the 1 in 7 Americans between the ages of 16 and 24 who aren't in school or are unemployed. The new summer jobs initiative seeks to further the goals of Obama's "My Brother's Keeper" program to help boys and young men of colour. As unglamorous as scooping ice cream was, Obama said it gave him a chance to contribute to his community.

"And while I may have lost my taste for ice cream after one too many free scoops, I'll never forget that job, or the people who gave me that opportunity, and how they helped me get to where I am today," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Splurging at the mall provides much less satisfaction than saving to reach a specific goal. ISTOCK

If shopping defines your life, maybe it's time to quit stores

MAKING CHOICES

Turn mindless buying into meaningful achievement

Gail Vaz-Oxlade
For Metro Canada

Clothes and jewelry are wonderful treats, but they won't put a roof over your head or food in your stomach. And they aren't worth much to anyone else after you've owned them.

Money in the bank means you have options. If you lose your job or get sick or have to help a family member, having money means you have choices. The clothes and jewelry won't be so shiny if you're trying to find a way to pay the rent.

While loads of people like to haul out the word "addict" to justify their rabid shopping behaviour, most people aren't "addicted" to shopping. Shopping addicts are a very small percentage. Only about just six per cent of the population suffer from compulsive-buying disorder. The rest of the claims come from people who like to shop. It makes them feel good. It makes their brains produce chemicals that make them happy. And they may have impulse control problems. But it isn't an addiction.

If you're an over-shopper, job one is to stay out of the stores. Turn off the house or style porn on your television set. Shopping doesn't solve any problems. As soon as you get that fab handbag, those snazzy new shoes, that fantastic new dining room table, it feels less important — even worthless — because you want something newer and snazzier. Having a meaningful life, a happy life that contributes, is the answer.

Find something that's really important to you: Set a goal. The idea is to transfer your shopping energy and the money you would have spent from something that offers no long-term value to something that you truly want to achieve.

Make sure that goal you're trying to achieve is realistic. If you're hankering over what looks like the picture-perfect lives of the stars you admired, how are you going to do that on your income? If you always seem to want what someone else has, that may not only be putting a huge strain on your relationships, but killing your wallet as well.

If you think that your dreams were more important than everyone else's reality give your head a shake. Using your parents, mates, or friends to get what you want is going to leave them with a horrible taste in their mouths. Just because you can successfully talk the people who love you into taking care of you doesn't mean you should.

Have some self-respect. In the end if you can't take care of yourself, what's the point?

For the hard-core shopping addict, intervention is often necessary. Just as with alcohol or drug addition, a professional needs to help redirect addictive behaviour. For the rest, family and friends — the peer group — need to tell their shopping-crazed friend that their behaviour isn't good for them or their friendship.

For more money advice, visit Gail's website at gailvazoxlade.com

$ KNOW BETTER

Things money can't buy...

- If you're shopping to keep your friends, find new friends.
- If you're shopping to salve your broken heart, buy a book or go to the gym.
- If you're shopping because you think your stuff says something about you, know that your actions say more.

metro SPORTS

Despite fracturing her left knee the day before, Lindsey Vonn competed Sunday and placed 13th in a World Cup Alpine combined event

Rangers trade for Staal

NHL

Hurricanes deal captain for package including picks

Eric Staal gets to play with another brother, and the New York Rangers are loading up for the playoffs.

The Rangers acquired the Carolina Hurricanes' captain and face of the franchise on Sunday.

In exchange for Staal, the Rangers sent centre Aleksi Saarela, who is currently playing in his native Finland, to Carolina along with New York's second-round selections in each of the next two drafts.

Rangers general manager Jeff Gorton said the Hurricanes retained a portion of Staal's $8.25-million cap hit, and have enough financial flexibility to add another "small-salary player if we wanted to."

The Rangers trail first-place Washington by 16 points in the Metropolitan Division standings.

"We felt like he was one of the best, if not the best, player available on the market to give us what we're looking for in our top nine," Gorton said. "And that's why we made the move."

The deal — finalized prior to the Hurricanes' 5-2 loss to the St. Louis Blues and a day before the NHL trade deadline — wasn't a total surprise from Carolina's perspective.

The 31-year-old Staal had spent his entire 12-year career with the Hurricanes, who drafted him with the second overall pick in 2003.

He is eligible to become an unrestricted free agent this summer, once the final year of his seven-year, $55.75-million contract expires.

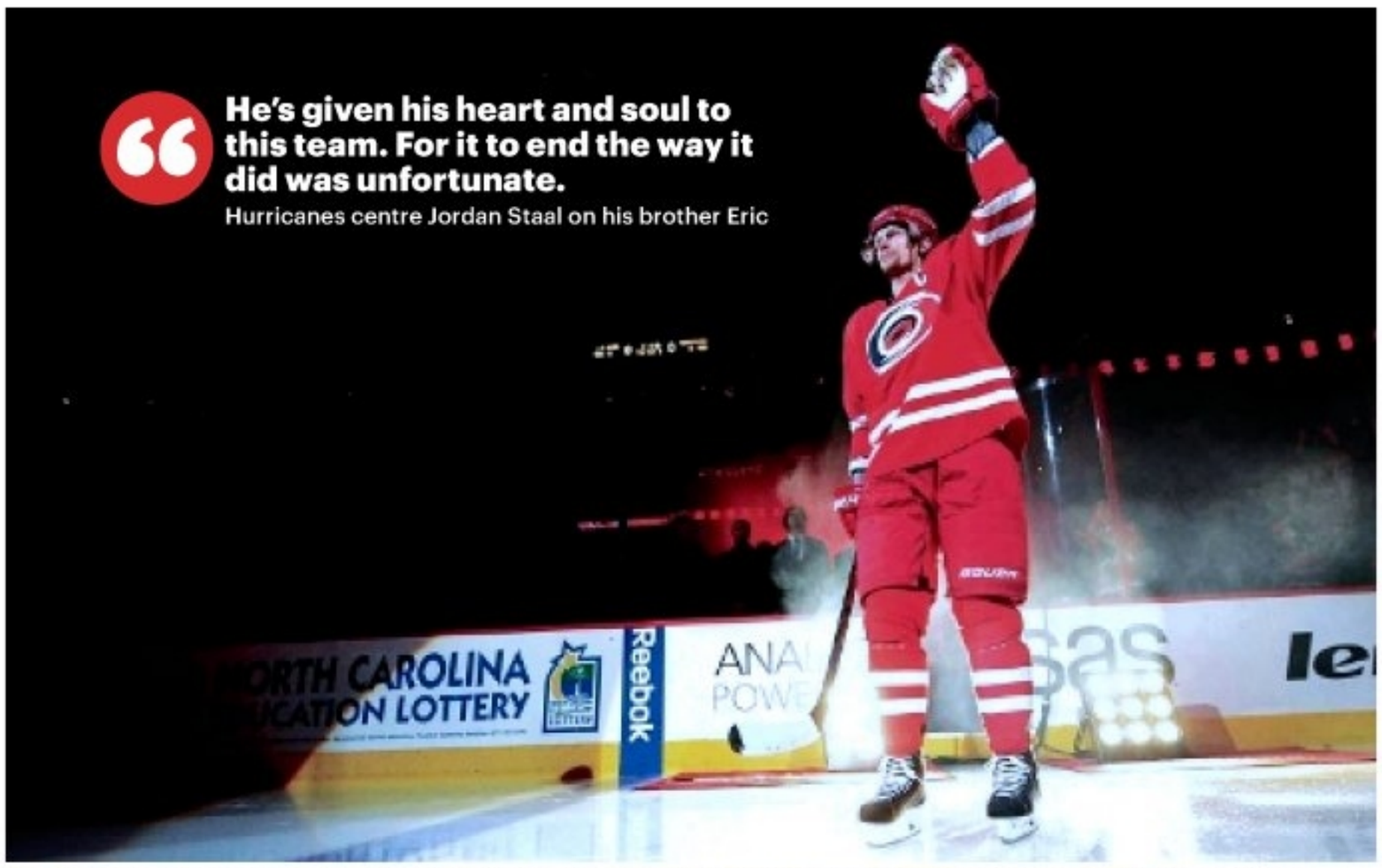
After a rocky start, Carolina mounted a late push for its first playoff berth since 2009, but has lost five of its last seven games. The Hurricanes are four points behind Pittsburgh for the final wild-card spot with the Penguins having four games in hand.

"This group has played some really good hockey from December to this point, and they're working hard, and you never want to have to do this," Francis said. "But when you look at the big picture, and we couldn't get comfortable on a contract term, then you can't lose an asset like that for nothing. It's too important to your franchise moving forward."

The trade leaves goalie Cam Ward — who earned the Conn Smythe Trophy in 2006 as the franchise won its only Stanley Cup — as the only Hurricane left from any of the club's playoff teams.

Staal leaves one younger brother, Jordan Staal, and will be united with another brother, Marc, who plays defence for the Rangers. A fourth Staal brother, Jared, is playing with South Carolina of the ECHL and had been in the Hurricanes' organization.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


He's given his heart and soul to this team. For it to end the way it did was unfortunate.
Hurricanes centre Jordan Staal on his brother Eric
NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY
Reebok

Eric Staal is the Hurricanes' career leader in numerous categories, including goals (332) and points (775). GETTY IMAGES FILE

5

Staal has scored 30-plus goals five times in his career. He has 10 goals and 23 assists this season.

MOGULS

Kingsbury captures 32nd title

Mikael Kingsbury captured his 32nd FIS World Cup title Sunday, winning the dual moguls event on a three-medal day for Canada.

The 23-year-old freestyle skier from Deux-Montagnes, Que., defeated American Thomas Rowley 20-15, while Benjamin Caven of France won the bronze.

The victory capped an impressive weekend for Kingsbury, who was second in Saturday's single moguls event.

"I'm thrilled to be back on top of a World Cup," Kingsbury said. "There were a few challenges with the course and I had to beat some really good competitors along the way. I really wanted to win (Saturday) and I didn't, so I was extra motivated.

"My confidence kept going up after each dual. I'm happy with the way I dealt with things and that I've basically locked up the Crystal Globe (the overall title."

Audrey Robichaud of Quebec City and Chloe Dufour-Lapointe of Montreal were back on the podium, finishing second and third respectively in the women's dual moguls.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SECOND WIN

Marie-Michele Gagnon of Lac-Etchemin, Que., captured her second career World Cup Alpine victory by winning the women's combined event on Sunday.

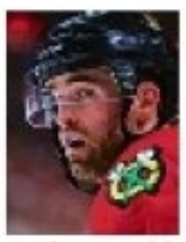
NHL

Debut point for Ladd in Blackhawks win

For all the star power with the Washington Capitals and Chicago Blackhawks, it was a connection between fourth-line forwards that proved to be the difference.

Richard Panik kicked the puck from behind the net to a streaking Dennis Rasmussen for the rookie's fourth goal at 12:47 of the third, and the new-look Blackhawks topped the NHL-leading Capitals 3-2 on Sunday.

Andrew Ladd got an assist in his return to Chicago after he was reacquired in a trade with Winnipeg on Thursday night.



Andrew Ladd GETTY IMAGES

Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane also scored as the Blackhawks (39-20-5) won for just the third time in their last eight games. Corey Crawford made 28 saves, helping Chicago leapfrog Dallas for the Western Conference top spot. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Wild's Haula nets to break home skid against Panthers

Erik Haula scored midway through the third period to lead the Minnesota Wild to a 3-1 victory over the Florida Panthers on Sunday.

Charlie Coyle and Jason Pominville also scored for Minnesota, which ended a nine-game winless streak (0-6-3) at the Xcel Energy Center. The Wild technically won a "home" game last Sunday, beating Chicago in a Stadium Series contest at the University of Minnesota.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scott victorious with conventional-length putter

Adam Scott won the Honda Classic and put to rest any notion that his career would suffer with a short putter.

In a tight duel with Sergio Garcia for the entire round Sunday at PGA National, Scott stayed out of the water and closed with an even-par 70 for a one-shot victory. It was his first title since Colonial in May 2014, and his first time winning with a conventional putter since 2010.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CURLING — WOMEN'S NATIONALS

Defending champ Jones wins bronze

Jennifer Jones won the bronze medal at the Canadian women's curling championship Sunday with an 8-7 win over Manitoba's Kerri Einarson.

Alberta's Chelsea Carey and Northern Ontario's Krista McCarville were to meet in the championship game at night.

Jones was the defending champion at this year's Scotties Tournament of Hearts, so her Winnipeg team wore the Maple Leaf as Team Canada.

She lost 7-5 in the semifinal to Northern Ontario's Krista McCarville in Saturday's semifinal. Einarson also lost 7-5 to McCarville in the Page playoff between the third and fourth seeds, which set up an all-Manitoba battle for bronze.

Jones made a draw to the four-foot rings with her last shot of the game for the win. "The future of Manitoba curling is very bright," Jones said. "It's nice to end on a win. It's nice to make a last shot to win."

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Jays hold healthy ace in the hole

MLB

A year after ACL injury, Stroman ready to lead rotation

Marcus Stroman is feeling better than ever.

With the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee fully healed for nearly a year, the Toronto Blue Jays pitcher has set high expectations for himself going into the new season.

Stroman doesn't want to merely be a part of a rotation helping Toronto defend its first AL East title in 22 years — he's determined to lead it.

"I want to be that guy," the hard-throwing righty said. "That's why I put in all that work in the off-season. Everything I did was to be the ace and, hopefully, I have that opportunity to be the ace and I can kind of run with it."

With former ace and 2012 AL Cy Young winner David Price's off-season departure to the Red Sox, the chances are good for Stroman to fill the void.

Despite missing the first five months last season after injuring his knee in a freak accident during fielding practice in March, Stroman returned for four starts in September, going 4-0 with a 1.67 ERA.

Stroman also started Toronto's memorable come-from-behind triumph over Texas in the deciding Game 5 of the AL Division Series, then earned the win in Game 3 against Kansas City in the AL Championship Series.

Even when Stroman wasn't able to walk, the 24-year-old said he still maintained a consistent throwing schedule throughout the rehabilitation process. He worked with trainers during the summer at Duke University, where he was drafted 22nd overall by Toronto as a junior in 2012, and completed coursework to finish his degree in sociology.

"My body is in the best position that it's ever been," Stroman said.

"I'm excited, man. It's going to be hard for this next month, because I'm kind of itching to get at the bit, being that I didn't play all last year."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marcus Stroman went 4-0 with a 1.67 ERA in four regular-season starts last season. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **He really has a dynamite arm. He's an energizer.**
> Manager John Gibbons on Marcus Stroman

IN BRIEF

Messi leads Barca to win

Lionel Messi scored with an unstoppable free kick to help Barcelona come from behind to beat Sevilla 2-1 on Sunday, a record-equalling 34th game without a loss that kept the champions on track to retain their Spanish league title.

Sevilla's Victor (Vitolo) Machin struck first for the visitors in the 20th minute, but Messi curled home his free kick 11 minutes later before Gerard Pique put Barcelona ahead just after halftime. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOCCER

City claims League Cup on penalties

Manchester City added another League Cup to the growing collection of trophies under its Abu Dhabi ownership, beating Liverpool in a penalty shootout with Yaya Toure converting the clinching spot kick on Sunday.

And on a day of double delight for the Manchester clubs, United damaged Arsenal's Premier League title challenge after new star Marcus Rashford scored twice in a 3-2 win. The 18-year-old striker has now scored four goals in his first two starts for United.

Second-place Tottenham rallied to beat Swansea 2-1 to trim the gap to surprise league leader Leicester to two points.

Man City manager Manuel Pellegrini claimed a third trophy in his three-year tenure that is ending this summer.

City and Liverpool played to a 1-1 draw after extra time, with the former winning the shootout 3-1 at Wembley Stadium. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Roasted Cod Provençal

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This flaky cod sits in a thick and delicious sauce featuring herbs and olives. Trust us. It's all about the olives.

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Total time: 30 minutes
Serves 4

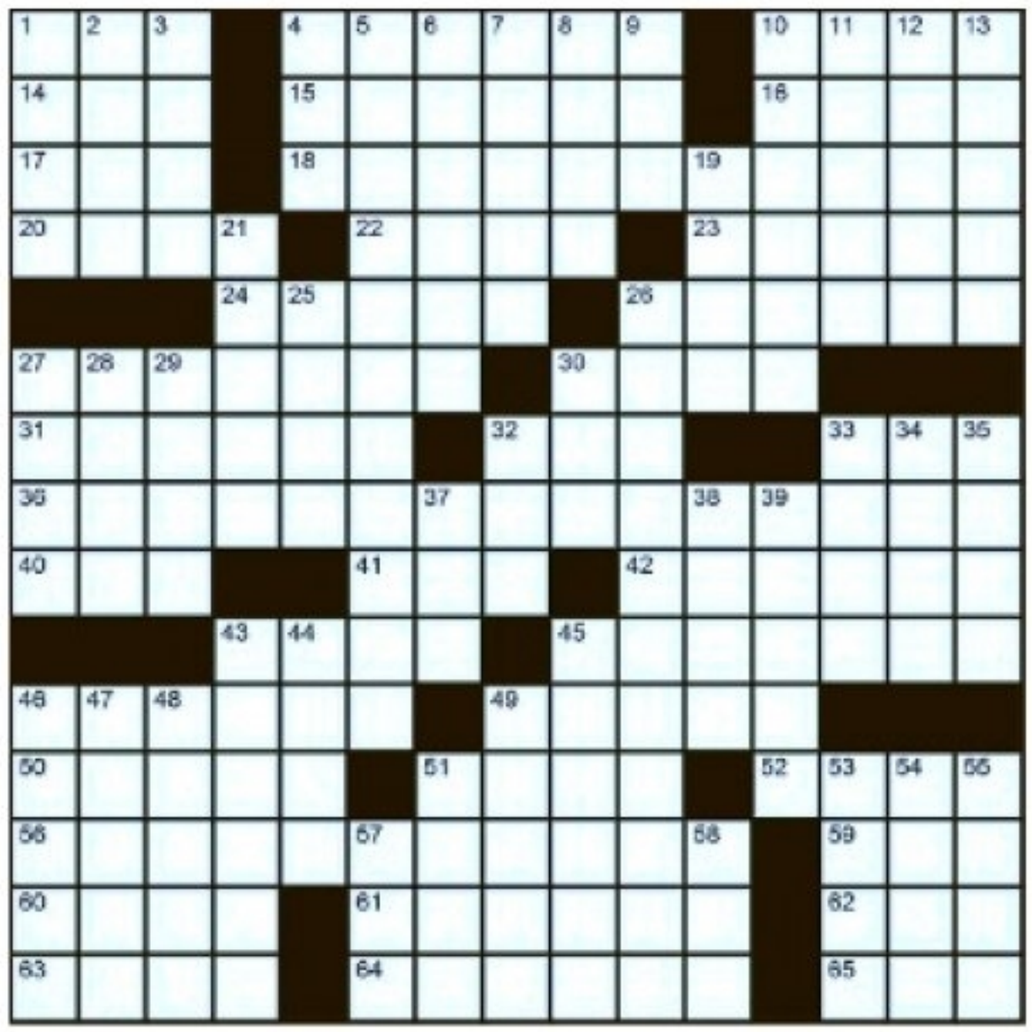
Ingredients
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 red onion, sliced
- 1 bulb of fennel, trimmed and thinly sliced (retain the fennel fronds for garnish)
- 1 red pepper, trimmed and thinly sliced
- 1/4 tsp dried thyme
- 1/4 tsp dried oregano
- 1 can of tomatoes (28 oz.)
- 1/3 cup black olives, pitted
- 4 filets of cod

Directions
1. Preheat the oven to 350 F.
2. In a large skillet, warm olive oil over medium heat. Toss in the garlic, onions and fennel and sauté for about 5 minutes until vegetables begin to soften. Add the peppers and the herbs and cook for another 3 minutes.
3. Add the tomatoes and olives. Use the back of a wooden spoon to break up the tomatoes. Allow to simmer and thicken, about 10 minutes.
4. Pour the sauce into a baking dish. Lay the cod over the sauce and bake for 12 to 15 minutes, until fish is flaky.
5. Sprinkle finely chopped fennel fronds over top.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Premium auto maker
4. Clash hit: "Rock the _"
10. Sitar song
14. Regret
15. Woolly animal
16. Biblical grandson
17. Publicize
18. Leap Year: Today is February _-_
20. Mr. Kinnear
22. Tibet's shaggy animals
23. Rinse with a solvent
24. Connects
26. Loonie
27. Turns in the coupons
30. Lots
31. "That may be, however...": 2 wds.
32. There: Latin
33. Univ. paper
36. BC: _ _ National Park
40. Tic-Tac-Toe losing line
41. Lana Del Who?
42. Canuck rocker Neil's family
43. Stairway feature
45. Madrid language
46. Arrow-throwing matchmaker's
49. Bogus
50. Fennel-like flavour
51. Ben _ (Sci-Fi author of Return to Mars)
52. _ Canal
56. Passes-processing person: 2 wds.
59. Blue/orange jerseys NHL team [acronym]
60. Theatrical opening, _ _
61. Insight
62. 'Fall' suffix (Misconception)
63. Midday
64. Fido can't stay here: 2 wds.
65. Caribbean music

DOWN
1. Talk big
2. "The Ghost & Mrs. _"
3. Jewel's "You _ Meant for Me"
4. Meower
5. 1984 Los Angeles: Olympic kayak champion who raised an eagle feather when he and teammate Hugh Fisher won gold for Canada: 2 wds.
6. Verbalizes
7. Does depositing
8. Parliament statutes
9. Barnyard bale
10. Showbiz personality, Charles Nelson _
11. Invalidate
12. "Something's _ Give" (2003)
13. Peter of '60s pop duo Peter and Gordon
19. Vegas illuminator
21. Ms. Close
25. 'Class' suffix (Most elegant)
26. Discovery Channel science show: 2 wds.
27. San _, Italy
28. Rachael Ray's lettered liquid
29. Two: French
30. British honour [acronym]
32. Crawling plant
33. Rice-A-_
34. Mail deliveries, e.g.
35. Musician/radio personality John
37. Seafood, to some
38. "_, _ I was saying..."
39. Songs
43. Co-host of #26-Down, Dan _
44. "Zip-_-_-Doo-Dah"
45. "I need heeeelp!": 2 wds.
46. The Settlers of _ (Board game)
47. Canadian food company since 1917
48. Prefix to 'graph' (Cave drawing, for instance)
49. Be a pair of glasses coming in from the cold: 2 wds.
51. Betty Crocker salad topping soya bit
53. Irish actress Ms. O'Connor's
54. 15th-century Flemish painter, Jan van _
55. Ms. Tong, co-host of the Canadian show at #26-Down
57. Beige
58. Belonging to Memphis' li'l state

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
What someone is offering you may seem like a good deal but is it really? Hold out for more because you are way above average in skill, commitment and intelligence. They need you more than you need them.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
There are times in life when it is better to give up than to struggle on with a thankless task and this may well be one of them. Take the hint and move on to something else.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Stop worrying what other people think about you. You are who you are and no one has the right to demand you be anything else. Don't listen to those advising you otherwise.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Don't just believe what other people tell you today — find out for yourself. Most likely you will quickly see through their lies and distortions and arrive at a truth that is very different to what they wanted you to believe.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
The news you get today won't be as bad as you feared, so look on the bright side. If you make a habit of seeing things in a negative light then they may become self-fulfilling.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Forget about making changes because you're still heading in the right direction. Contrary to what some people might be telling you, your life does not need a major rethink.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Financial and career concerns seem to be taking up a lot of your time and emotional energy. You know from past experience that it will all come right in the end. Find reasons to smile, and make others smile too.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
It may be true that your working life is in a bit of a rut but don't go doing anything drastic just yet. You are advised to sit back, relax and watch (and laugh at) the passing parade.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Spell out in plain and simple language what it is you need done. If you leave room for doubt you can be sure that someone will get it wrong and cause unnecessary mayhem.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The more you try to analyze your current situation the more complicated it looks, so why not take the hint and let it be? Focus on things you feel more comfortable with.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you don't slow down you could end up falling down! Your emotional and intellectual energy may be unlimited but your physical energy is not. Don't burn yourself out.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
It's important that you treat someone fairly, even if they do not fully deserve it. They have broken the rules, but if you look at their situation with a little more sympathy you may find they did not have much of a choice.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		9						
	7		3					
4		2		6				1
	9		7				1	
1		4				6		3
	3				4		5	
5				1		4		2
					5		3	
						8		

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FRIDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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4	9	7	5	2	8	6	1	3
5	3	2	6	7	1	9	4	8
6	8	1	9	4	3	7	5	2
2	4	3	1	8	6	5	9	7
7	6	9	2	5	4	3	8	1
8	1	5	3	9	7	2	6	4
9	5	8	7	1	2	4	3	6
3	7	4	8	6	5	1	2	9
1	2	6	4	3	9	8	7	5

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